

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. Claims 1-11 were amended in this response to clarify claim terms. No new matter has been introduced as a result of the amendments.

The specification was objected to for containing embedded hyperlinks. In light of the above amendment to the specification, Applicants submit that the active hyperlinks have been removed. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maes et al.* (US Patent Application US 6,801,604). Claims 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maes et al.* (US Patent Application US 6,801,604) in view of *Hamada et al.* (US Patent Application 2002/0078105). Applicant traverses these rejections. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present independent claims 1 and 10 recite a method and system for allowing a design of structured documents, such as web pages, to be accessible by a visual browser and by an IVR (Interactive Voice Response) browser as well. The configuration provides this design to obviate the need for expert knowledge about the particulars of voice browsing or visual browsing. The claims provide for a “format based editor,” which is a program, where the designer of a web page simply arranges graphics, text elements structures etc., rather than editing HTML code. An “access information item” is also attached to the file of the web page and is subsequently stored on the server. Accordingly, users that are visually impaired can access web pages through the use of an IVR browser. If the access information item is present and the page is accessed by an IVR browser, it will be transferred to a host information computer, where the page is analyzed and modified to serve the needs of an IVR browser. The modified page is then transferred to the IVR browser.

The access information item is utilized to provide for reproducible code structures gained through the use of the format based editor, which is independent of the coding preferences inherent in a particular web site design. Furthermore, the generation of a web page may be independently modified using the format based editor by a library of subroutines which are added by the format based editor to support IVR browsing without requiring the designer of the

web page to be concerned about usability of the code for visually impaired users, or other users that want to access this page by an IVR browser.

Accordingly, by using the access information item, the host information computer can be sure to find a well known structure of the code of a particular web page and to modify the graphical structure of the page into an audible structure. One of the advantages of this configuration is that the designer will not be affected by several versions of the same web page (i.e., one for an IVR browser, another one for a normal browser). Additionally, the client computer on which the IVR browser resides is not required to store libraries, definition files or audio files, since they are provided by the host information computer.

In contrast, *Maes* discloses a telephony system 120 (FIG. 11) for building distributed conversational applications using a Web services-based model where speech engines are asynchronously programmed using extensible SERCP (col. 1, lines 15-27). While the Office Action equated the web application server (Fig. 11, 125) and the backend logic (Fig. 11, 126) as being identical to the host information computer, the teaching in *Maes* establishes that this is not the case. Both units in *Maes* serve the WebSphere suite, which is a server-based distributed system (col. 19, line 25). The web application server provides WebSphere with the necessary business logic or scripts for processing and retrieving data (col. 29, lines 41-44). The interfaces to web pages are an authentication server 123 and a wireless gateway 122, both of which are part of the considered telephony system 120. There is no distinct host information computer, and there is no alternative to process a web page in this host depending on an information item stored in the page file. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is improper and should be withdrawn. Similarly, *Hamada* does not solve the deficiency of *Maes*, and further does not teach the elements recited in the presently amended claims.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the patent application is in condition for allowance and request a Notice of Allowance be issued. A Petition for a one-month extension of time is enclosed herein, along with a check in the amount of \$120.00. The Commissioner is authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any fees associated with the submission of this Response, including any time extension fees. Please reference docket number 112740-392.

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